GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:568
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2005
UNETHICAL PRACTICES BY DOCTORS
Angadi Shri Suresh Chanabasappa;Chouhan Shri Shivraj Singh;Manvendra Singh Shri ;Pathak Shri Brajesh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a doctor at RML Hospital is involved in unwarranted hear operations as reported in the Hindi Daily Rashtriya Sahara dated July 2, 2005 ;

(b) if so, the details of the fact reported therein ;

(c) whether it is also a fact unwarranted angiography/angioplasty has been performed in Safdarjung Hospital by unscrupulous doctors ;

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the doctors involved in such activities ;

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to put a check on such activities by doctors in hospitals;

(f) the number of complaints received in this regard and the action taken thereon;

(g) whether private hospitals are also involved in such practices to earn illegal money and to harass patients ;

(h) whether the Government proposes to provide specialists for each dispensary for C.G.H.S. cardholders in future; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (d)&(f): Yes Sir. A cardiologist has been allegedly involved in at least in one unwarraranted Angioplasty in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital. The CBI have registered a case against the said cardiologist for allegedly fraudulently and dishonestly deceiving a CGHS beneficiary by preparing a false angiography report and issuing an expense certificate requiring the beneficiary to make a cash deposit with the Hospital. Another complaint has been received by the Government in respect of a cardiologist working in Safdarjung Hospital for having advised Angioplasty, which as per the opinion of two other cardiologists of the same hospital, was unwarranted.

(e) Guidelines have been formulated and circulated by both the hospitals to check such irregular activities by doctors.

(g) Health being a State subject, it is for the State Government to regulate/monitor the functioning of its hospitals including private hospitals as well as to ensure that they comply with the norms/ regulations prescribed by the respective State Governments as well as take punitive action against private hospitals/ doctors in cases of proven unethical and unscrupulous conduct. The aggrieved party can also take recourse to legal remedies under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

(h) and
(i) Specialists are provided in the CGHS Polyclinics. Further, specialists also visit on specified days select dispensaries having heavy patient load.